



County of Los Angeles  
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June 14, 2007

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen  
Chief Administrative Officer

**UPDATE ON GOVERNOR'S JUVENILE JUSTICE INITIATIVE**

At the Board Meeting of June 5, 2007, my office was directed to prepare five-signature letters articulating the County's position on the Governor's Juvenile Justice Initiative to the Governor, the Legislative Leadership, and the Budget Conferees with copies of each to members of the County's Legislative Delegation. The letters were completed and delivered on Friday, June 8, 2007. In addition, my office was requested to provide weekly reports on the Governor's Juvenile Justice Initiative. This is the second weekly update on this issue.

Our Sacramento advocates advise that there have not been any additional meetings between representatives from the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), Urban Counties Caucus and the Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC) and staff from the Legislature or the Governor's Office since Wednesday, June 6, 2007.

Previously, we reported that the Department of Finance had received additional information from CSAC regarding actual sliding scale payments from counties. This information is important to the overall discussions, as it is believed that the State will take into account these existing payments when determining the overall reimbursement to counties for retaining the additional wards. The revised cost data indicate a lower actual county cost than the Administration estimated. The Administration's initial reimbursement offer of \$94,000 per ward assumed an offset based on a higher level of county costs. If actual county costs are lower, the net costs to the State for full reimbursement to counties for the retention of non-violent, non-serious juvenile offenders will increase. At this time, the final impact of the new cost information on reimbursement payments by the State to counties is unknown.

Conference Committee member Senator Machado continues to advocate for rehabilitative services to juvenile offenders once they are released from detention. Previously, we reported that Senator Machado had raised the idea of a commission of State and local stakeholders to oversee the implementation of juvenile justice reform, evaluate the impact on the wards, and analyze the adequacy of funding, followed by a report to the Legislature. CPOC is having discussions regarding the nature of such a proposal concerning: the independence of such a commission; its tenure; and the level of State financial participation in support of innovative programs for juvenile offenders. Senator Machado's alternative proposal will be reviewed in today's Sacramento Update.

At this time, the Administration and the Legislature have not released any additional information on the proposed statutory changes necessary to implement a change in the disposition of non-violent, non-serious juvenile offenders. The lack of proposed statutory language at this time confirms the view of various county advocates that the details of the Juvenile Justice Reform package will be released shortly before it comes up for a vote before the Budget Conference Committee or on the floors of the respective houses. Notwithstanding, in the June 11, 2007 meeting of the Conference Committee, Senator Ducheny commented that she was told that the Juvenile Justice Reform package was very close to being ready.

The Conference Committee is not currently scheduled to meet today and its next meeting is at the call of the Chair.

We will keep you advised.

DEJ:GK/DL  
MAL:DD:SK:acn

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Probation Department  
Department of Mental Health  
Department of Health Services  
Department of Public Health